

Results-based Plan Briefing Book 2012-13

Ministry of the Environment

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MINISTRY OVERVIEW

The Ministry of the Environment is responsible for environmental protection to support clean and safe air, land and water to ensure healthy communities, ecological protection and sustainable development for present and future generations of Ontarians.

MINISTRY OVERVIEW STATEMENT

The environment has a central role in making Ontario a great place to live and work. For forty years, Ontarians have looked to the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for leadership in protecting the environment. Our work supports the government's key priorities of Environment, Health and Economy.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

The following key strategies support cleaner air, water and land, and healthier ecosystems for the people of Ontario, and a strong Ontario.

Combating Climate Change and Protecting Ontario's Air

The ministry continues to take action to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, adapt to climate change and protect the air we breathe. Initiatives include:

- Deliver Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan:
 - implement science and evidence-based climate change strategies and policies to achieve aggressive and achievable greenhouse gas emission targets
 - enable transition to a low-carbon economy
 - enable renewable energy projects like wind and solar through a single renewable energy approval
 - work with our Canadian and U.S. partners to develop a common regional approach to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
 - develop better science about the effects of climate change in the Hudson Bay Lowlands
 - implement Climate Ready: Ontario's Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan to help Ontarians adapt and minimize impacts of climate change
- Improving the overall air quality in Ontario by:
 - Ensuring reductions in emissions of smog precursors and air toxics in Ontario;
 - Working with the Canadian government to seek reductions in transboundary impacts of U.S. emissions of smog precursors (nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), volatile organic compounds (VOCs);
 - Ensuring reductions in vehicle emissions of smog-causing pollutants through the Drive Clean program; and
 - Regulating emissions of air contaminants from industrial facilities.

Reducing Toxics in the Environment

The ministry is taking action to reduce exposure of Ontarians to toxic substances in air, water, land and consumer products by:

- Ensuring compliance with the *Toxics Reduction Act*
- Banning the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides
- Enabling the development and sale of green alternatives.

Protecting Ontario's Water

MOE is working to make Ontario the North American leader in water protection and innovation, and to sustain Ontario's water resources for future generations. Key initiatives to protect both our drinking water and our fresh water resources include:

- Working with environmental experts, industry and community groups to develop and introduce a proposed Great Lakes Protection Act;
- Implementing the *Water Opportunities Act* to drive innovation in water technologies and approaches, create economic opportunities, sustain water infrastructure and protect Ontario's water;
- Ensuring source protection planning to help reduce drinking water risks by addressing threats to drinking water quantity and quality;
- Continuing to implement the Lead Action Plan;
- Protecting Great Lakes sustainability through the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem;
- Implementing the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan; and
- Informing the public about the state of Ontario's water through the Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report, the Minister's Annual Drinking Water Report, and the report on Water Quality in Ontario.

Waste Diversion and Land Quality

The ministry's waste diversion initiatives build on efforts to put Ontario at the forefront of a green economy in North America. MOE is continuing to take action to increase waste diversion and ensure appropriate management of residual wastes by:

- Helping Ontarians divert more waste from our landfills and waterways through legislation, policies, programs, and standards to promote reduction, reuse, and recycling of non-hazardous wastes.
- Improving Ontario's waste diversion framework by creating an action plan for diverting waste from landfills and keeping harmful chemicals out of our communities.

- Examining every tool available to protect consumers and control costs for municipalities and keep more waste out of landfills and waterways.
- Providing ongoing direction and guidance to Waste Diversion Ontario in its oversight of waste diversion programs.
- Maximizing waste diversion at industrial, commercial and institutional facilities.
- Ensuring compliance with legislation and promoting appropriate management of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.
- Implementing brownfields legislative and regulatory requirements to ensure the proper cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites while protecting the environment.

Open For Business: Modernization of Approvals

Modernizing the environmental approvals process is a key part of the government's Open for Business initiative. This initiative aims to create faster, smarter government-to-business services while protecting the public interest. The ministry is transforming the environmental approvals process by creating a more efficient, user-friendly approach that remains fully protective of the environment. The new model supports economic competitiveness in Ontario and improves client services.

The ministry will continue to consider and add sectors that are eligible to register on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry. Only activities that are well-understood, routine and present a low risk to the environment would be eligible for the registry.

Effective Monitoring, Compliance and Enforcement

The ministry's research, monitoring, inspection, investigations and enforcement activities are integral to achieving Ontario's environmental goals. The ministry will continue to support these activities by:

- Maintaining MOE's laboratory and monitoring facility and equipment which is critical for analyzing water, air and soil samples, monitoring, reporting and developing environmental standards.
- Working with industry, stakeholders, and the public to ensure compliance with environmental standards.

Ministry Administration

Ministry administration provides strategic support for fiscal controllership, human resources and strategic management oversight, including financial management, audits, technology operations, addressing requests under the *Freedom of Information Act*, legal services,

communications and French language services. It also includes the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry, which enhances citizen participation in government decisions and provides information to the public on environmental initiatives.

Greening Internal Operations

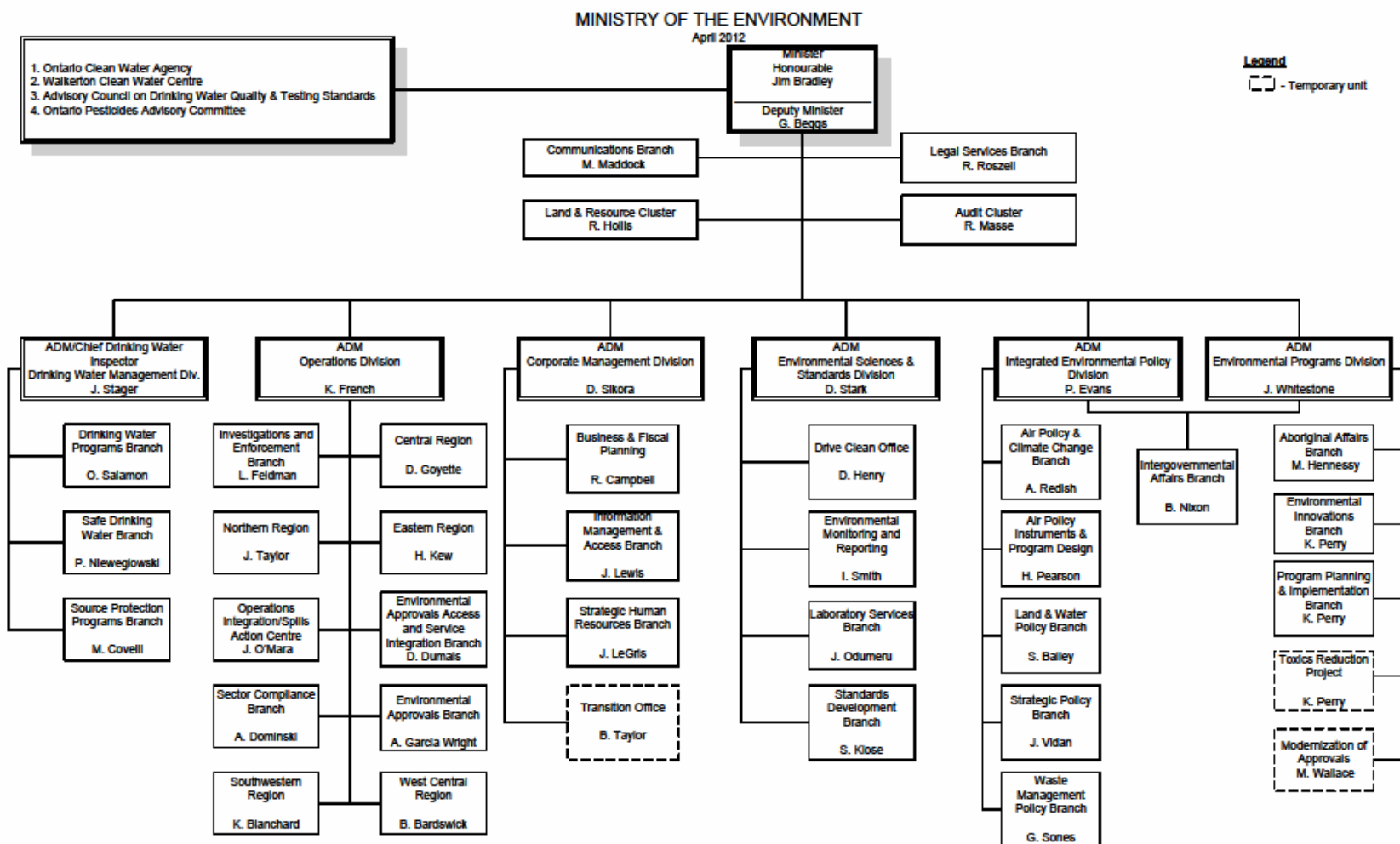
The ministry will continue to take a leadership role to conserve energy and wisely use our air, water and land resources in order to generate sustainable environmental, health, and economic benefits for present and future generations.

MOE continues to reduce its environmental footprint by greening its internal operations and supporting environmentally sustainable practices for its partners, stakeholders, and suppliers. A range of activities are being undertaken to reduce the ministry's air emissions, energy use, water consumption, and waste generation. These include: monitoring and reducing the ministry's carbon footprint, promoting energy and water conservation in ministry outreach and educational activities, and supporting government-wide greening and sustainability initiatives.

MINISTRY KEY RESULTS

By delivering on these government priorities, the ministry strives to achieve these key results:

- Delivering on Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan.
- Supporting Open Ontario initiatives, including implementing the *Water Opportunities Act*.
- Safeguarding drinking water from source to tap.
- Protecting our water resources, including Lake Simcoe and the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.
- Reducing toxic substances and cancer-causing agents in the environment.
- Maximizing waste diversion.
- Cleaning up environmentally contaminated sites.
- Enhancing inspection and enforcement capacity.
- Investing in environmental science.
- Modernizing approvals and reducing regulatory burden.
- Streamlining renewable energy approvals.
- Supporting Ontario's transformation to a green economy.



LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Adams Mine Lake Act, 2004

Capital Investment Plan Act, 1993 (Part IV re: Ontario Clean Water Agency only)

Clean Water Act, 2006

Consolidated Hearings Act

Environmental Assessment Act

Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993

Environmental Protection Act

Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008

Ministry of the Environment Act

Municipal Water and Sewage Transfer Act, 1997

Nutrient Management Act, 2002 (together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs)

Ontario Water Resources Act

Pesticides Act

Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002

Sustainable Water and Sewage Systems Act, 2002

Toxics Reduction Act, 2009

Waste Diversion Act, 2002

Water Opportunities Act, 2010 (except for Part II)¹

¹ The MOE administers this Act except for Part II, however, an Order In Council making this official has yet to go forward.

AGENCIES, BOARDS & COMMITTEES (ABCs)

	ESTIMATES 2012-13 \$	INTERIM ACTUALS 2011-12 \$	ACTUALS 2010-11 \$
Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards	200,000	204,400	201,319
Lake Simcoe Science & Coordinating Committees	35,000	28,180	20,503
Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee	157,500	161,300	91,517
Total Agencies, Boards & Committees (ABCs)	392,500	393,880	313,339

Note: The ministry contributed operating funds to the Walkerton Clean Water Centre in 2011-12. Detailed financial information for Ontario Clean Water Agency and Walkerton Clean Water Centre is provided in their Business Plans.

MINISTRY PLANNED EXPENDITURE 2012/13

	ESTIMATES 2012-13
	\$
Operating	327,404,814
Capital	24,062,100
Total Ministry	351,466,914

MINISTRY PLANNED EXPENDITURE 2012/13

VOTE/PROGRAMS	Estimates 2012-13 \$
MINISTRY ADMINISTRATION	
Strategic Management Support	52,080,800
Ministry Administration Capital	1,000
Ministry Administration Total	52,081,800
AIR	
Smog and Air Toxics Reduction	36,407,800
Drive Clean	18,179,500
Climate Change	16,453,200
Air Capital	300,000
Air Total	71,340,500
WATER	
Clean Water	99,656,200
Source Protection	45,456,400
Nutrient Management	8,298,400
Water Capital	8,010,000
Water Total	161,421,000
WASTE	
Non-Hazardous Waste Management	16,044,700
Hazardous Waste Management	25,101,300
Land Restoration	9,660,500
Waste Capital	14,076,000
Waste Total	64,882,500
STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS	1,741,114
Total Ministry	351,466,914

APPENDIX:

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

2011/12 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2011/12, the Ministry of the Environment undertook many initiatives and activities to protect and enhance the quality of air, land, and water in Ontario. These efforts contribute to healthy communities, ecological protection and sustainable development today and for the benefit of future generations.

Combating Climate Change and Protecting Ontario's Air

A number of ministry activities in 2011/12 were aimed at reducing the sources and effects of global climate change and helping to protect Ontarians from the harmful effects of air pollutants.

Ontario understands that progress in combating climate change and protecting and enhancing air quality requires cooperation and collaboration by many jurisdictions and organizations. This is why the province continues to work with:

- Our Canadian and U.S. partners on a common regional approach to reduce greenhouse gases and support transition to a low-carbon economy; and
- Other provinces through the Council of the Federation to address climate change.

The Renewable Energy Approval ensures human health and the environment are protected while Ontario increases renewable energy to create green jobs and improve air quality.

On April 26, 2011, the ministry released Ontario's first Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan to complement the work already being done on climate change mitigation.

Changes to Drive Clean includes exempting some vehicles from testing while continuing to reduce smog causing emissions. These exemptions will save drivers of newer cars time and money. Improved vehicle emissions technology makes testing seven-year-old vehicles unnecessary.

New/updated air standards for eight air toxics, including manganese, dioxins and benzene, were introduced.

Reducing Toxics in the Environment

Under the *Toxics Reduction Act* companies are required to track, quantify and report the amount of toxics they use, create and release. During the first reporting period ending June 17, 2011, more than 800 facilities submitted annual reports. The act protects the environment and human health by promoting reductions in the use, creation and release of toxic substances.

Protecting Ontario's Water

In 2011-2012, the ministry continued to take strong action to protect Ontario's drinking water from source to tap.

Inspections show that Ontario's drinking water continues to be of very high quality. For 2010-11, 99.87 per cent of the drinking water tests from municipal residential drinking water systems met Ontario's rigorous, health-based standards.

Regulated drinking water systems are achieving performance improvements — for 2010-11, 65 per cent of municipal residential drinking water systems achieved a 100 per cent inspection rating. This is a six per cent increase over the previous year.

All municipal residential drinking water systems have received their final drinking water licences. The licensing program, which incorporates a quality management system for drinking water systems, is the first of its kind in North America, and drives our systems to continuously improve their performance.

The Minister's Annual Report on Drinking Water, 2011 notes the province is cleaning up the Great Lakes, improving the health of Lake Simcoe and continuing to provide clean, safe and reliable drinking water to Ontarians.

The ministry started implementing the *Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act*, which builds on Ontario's expertise in water protection services and technology. It positions Ontario to be a North American leader in the growing water technology sector, encouraging Ontarians to use water more efficiently and strengthening sustainable municipal water infrastructure planning by helping municipalities identify and plan for long term infrastructure needs.

Under the act, the Showcasing Water Innovation program supported 29 organizations and communities in creating smarter solutions to improve drinking water, waste water and stormwater systems.

Clean-up of Lake Superior's Peninsula Harbour near Marathon can now start in the spring of 2012. The ministry secured funding from Ball Packaging, a former owner of the community's now closed pulp and paper mill. Ontario is also providing funding. Capping leftover waste is the last step in the plan to restore the harbour's ecological state to a safe, healthy state.

The ministry continues to work with the source protection committees that are responsible for 38 planning areas across the province. The committees have identified risks to their drinking water sources through assessment reports they submitted to the ministry for approval. The assessment reports are guiding the development of source protection plans. Once plans are in place, over 80 per cent of Ontario's population will have its water supplies safeguarded by the source protection process.

The new Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence recognized six organizations and individuals for their outstanding environmental achievement, leadership and innovation in environmental protection. Another 17 organizations and individuals were honoured for their efforts. The 2011 awards focused on actions to protect water and reduce toxics in the environment.

Effective Monitoring, Compliance and Enforcement

The ministry operates and maintains 40 Air Quality Index (AQI) reporting stations in Ontario. The data from these stations is used to produce an annual Air Quality in Ontario Report.

A pilot project within the Oakville-Clarkson airshed will develop a new and innovative national air quality management system to reduce air pollution, leading to improved air quality for local families.

The ministry monitors water quality in the Great Lakes, inland lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater across the province. Every year, the ministry collects and analyzes tens of thousands of samples from water, sediment, and aquatic life such as fish and algae. This extensive monitoring helps us to understand the state of our water resources, the impacts of our activities, the causes of problems and to identify emerging problems.

Fish from more than 1,950 locations across the province were collected and analyzed for the 2011-2012 Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish. The guide provides advice to the public on safe levels of consumption. In addition to the hard copy version of the guide, an online interactive version was launched.

The ministry's drinking water and specialized laboratory inspectors are dedicated to drinking water safety. Municipal residential drinking water systems are inspected on an annual basis, while licensed labs are inspected a minimum of twice a year.

Compliance activities are also conducted by general inspectors across the province, with a focus on local facilities and issues related to air quality, waste management, sewage discharges, pesticides, water-takings and nutrient management. A central group of inspectors focuses on water diversion in the industrial, commercial and institutional waste sector, as well as vehicle emissions and other priority sectors.

The ministry continues to complete risk-based proactive and responsive inspections for its non-hazardous and hazardous waste programs to address emerging issues and non-compliance.

The ministry focuses its inspection efforts where the highest potential risk exists, based on potential impacts to human and environmental health, as well as compliance history, including

complaints, incidents or spills.

Ministry inspectors use a wide variety of compliance and enforcement tools, ranging from education and voluntary action plans to mandatory measures such as tickets, orders and penalties. Money collected for environmental penalties are used to fund local community environmental projects.

Waste Diversion and Land Quality

Ontario continues to build on its excellent record in diverting waste and protecting the quality of land across the province. Provincial efforts to increase waste diversion are working – Ontarians are keeping more and more compost and recyclables out of our landfills every year.

Ontario announced an action plan for diverting waste from landfills and keeping harmful chemicals out of our communities while protecting consumers from unnecessary charges. Changes are being made to programs and policies under the *Waste Diversion Act* to ensure that:

- Waste diversion targets are met;
- The interests of consumers are protected;
- Businesses have clear, consistent guidelines for diverting the maximum amount of waste;
- Municipalities are not burdened with additional costs; and
- Retailers understand their role and take responsibility for fair and accurate pricing.

A new regulation will ensure producers pay the actual cost of waste disposal instead of the projected cost. This is an industry-funded solution that puts waste diversion on a more sound financial footing.

The cleanup is progressing at the historical mining, refining, and manufacturing site at Deloro. Work is nearing completion on the engineered cover for the tailings area.

Promoting Sustainable Growth

A new environmental approval program was launched on October 31. This program is part of the Open for Business initiative to better serve business.

The new online system makes it faster and easier for businesses to get environmental approvals without jeopardizing Ontario's strict environmental standards. Activities with well-understood, routine and limited environmental effects can self-register.

The approach incorporates service delivery standards and online tools to support government-to-business interaction for approvals. In addition, the public now has access to information about local businesses.

Greening Internal Operations

The ministry continues to reduce its environmental footprint by greening its own operations.

About a third of the MOE vehicle fleet is green – consisting of 131 hybrid vehicles as well as flex-fuel (ethanol) and electric vehicles. The ministry continues to reduce its air travel-related greenhouse gas emissions and it remains a major purchaser of power from emissions-free, low impact sources such as wind farms.

The ministry has implemented waste diversion programs in 13 of the buildings it occupies and tracks progress and identifies further opportunities to reduce waste production and increase diversion rates.

The ministry's spaces at 77 Wellesley Street West were renovated to LEED Platinum specifications – the highest level achievable and an OPS first.

Ministry offices and branches are taking part in the Sustain Campaign. This office certification program, launched in September 2011, recognizes environmental activities and practices. The program is the first of its kind in a Canadian government organization.

The ministry is lending its expertise to support greening of the Pan Am Games being held in 2015 in Toronto.

Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures 2011/12

	(\$M)
Operating	\$375.0
Capital	\$24.9
FTE Cap (as of March 31, 2012):	
Ministry of the Environment	2083.78
Ontario Clean Water Agency	658.48